

TO: ALA Executive Board

RE: Formation of a Special Committee to Review ALA's Constitution and Bylaws.

ACTION REQUESTED/INFORMATION/REPORT:

The Board is asked to approve the formation of this special committee.

ACTION REQUESTED BY:

Camila Alire, ALA President

CONTACT PERSON:

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DRAFT OF MOTION:

The Executive Board approves the establishment of a Special Committee to undertake a comprehensive review of ALA's Constitution and Bylaws and submit recommended revisions and amendments to ALA Council.

DATE: January 11, 2010

BACKGROUND:

The ALA Constitution and Bylaws have not undergone a comprehensive review for a considerable period of time. Over the years as articles have been amended, inconsistencies have been identified, and a number of areas have become obsolete. As recommended by *Sturgis*, when it becomes necessary to perform a comprehensive review of the Constitution and Bylaws, a special committee may be appointed to undertake this task.

The composition of the committee will be:

Norman Horrocks, Chair
Jim Rettig, Immediate Past President
Nancy Davenport, Former Chair of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee
Tom Wilding, Current Chair of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee
Kathleen Degyansky, Current Member of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee
JoAnne Kempf, ALA Staff Liaison

ALA Parliamentarian Eli Mina will serve as a consultant to the committee.

All individuals have been contacted and have agreed to serve on this special committee.

The Committee will begin its work at the 2010 Midwinter Meeting with anticipated completion of their work by the 2011 Midwinter Meeting. Any recommended changes to the Constitution and/or Bylaws will be brought to Council for approval and then will appear on the ALA Ballot for ratification by ALA membership.

Attachment: Formal committee charge and composition

Special Committee to Review ALA Constitution & Bylaws

January 2010

Charge:

To undertake a comprehensive review of the ALA Constitution and Bylaws and submit recommended revisions and amendments to ALA Council. The purpose of this review is to identify inconsistencies and provide clarification as necessary. This work will be done in close consultation with the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

Background:

The ALA Constitution and Bylaws have not undergone a comprehensive review for a considerable period of time. Periodically, inconsistencies have been identified, and a number of areas have become obsolete. As recommended by *Sturgis*, when extensive changes to the constitution and bylaws are required, a special committee may be appointed for this purpose.

Proposed Timeline:

The Committee will hold a preliminary meeting at the 2010 Midwinter Meeting to review its charge and establish a procedure for its work. The committee will meet again at the 2010 Annual Conference and again at the 2011 Midwinter Meeting. Final report and recommendations will be presented to Council at the 2011 Midwinter Meeting.

Between face-to-face meetings, the committee will work virtually and conduct conference calls as necessary.

Committee Members (all have accepted):

Norman Horrocks – Chair

Thomas Wilding, current Chair, Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Jim Rettig, ALA Past President

Nancy Davenport, former Chair of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee

Kathleen Degyansky, current member of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee

JoAnne Kempf, ALA Staff Liaison

ALA Parliamentarian Eli Mina to serve in a consulting capacity.

